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PRINT

AN
ADDRESS

TO THE

PEOPLE

OF THE

CANADA.

By a Friend to NATURAL and EQUAL RIGHTS.

NEW YORK:

PRINTED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE CONCERNED.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

WITH respect to the literary merit of this Work, the author does not suppose it to have any ; he is by no means anxious to defend it in that way.—His only object is to give a plain and true account of the proceedings under the several heads which he has hereafter laid down. He has taken much trouble and time, attended with fatigue and great expense, in order to become informed of the true intent and meaning of his Majesty's Executives in North-America, from which he here divests himself of all prejudice, leaving the world to judge.—He flatters himself that he shall not injure the feelings of any subjects, but only awaken them to a true sense of their situations—leaving them to consult their own feelings, and provide themselves with such means, in order to remedy the evils, as they may think proper.

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An ADDRESS, &c.

TO THE LOYALISTS FIRST.

YOU are distinguished by having the letters U. E. placed as a mark of honor to your names, by reason of your having joined the *United Empire* by a certain time. Proclamations have been issued and most faithful promises made to all of your description, that you and your children to the third generation, should be considered worthy of his Majesty's most gracious benevolence; and that no fees of office, for deeds or surveys, should be taken from those of your description; at the same time you had three years provisions promised you and your families. At that time you had land-boards established throughout the provinces, for the ease and speedy relief of those persons who had joined the standard, and complied with every requisition of the then commanding officers of government. Lands were given out and certificates signed to such of his Majesty's subjects as found it convenient to apply, and every encouragement of deeds to be given you, within twelve months from the date of the certificates.

You are the very men who have fought and bled in his Majesty's service.—You, in the first stage of the revolution, left your friends (divided in sentiment) and took your abode under a standard for his Majesty, in the howling wilderness of the *Canadas*—leaving behind you your wives, your children and aged parents, all exposed to the heat of passion which then prevailed. All

these and many other affecting circumstances might be related. Since the conclusion of the peace, it is well known to all your friends in the *United States*, that you are curtailed of your expectations, in almost every promise which his Majesty made you for the hardships you underwent; and had it not been for his American subjects, in their stedfast attachment to the Provinces, the country never could have been ceded to *Great Britain*.

You have purchased that country at the risk of your lives, your fortunes, and the loss of the lives of many good friends, besides the disagreeable circumstance of leaving your mother country, with the expectation of never residing there any more.— I am persuaded and can assure you, that there is not one feeling heart among us, which does not feel for you. You are the very men to whom that country belongs, both by the purchase of blood and actual settlement, and rest assured that you have the good wishes of all those who are acquainted with your situations.

Here let me remind you of the promises made to you and your families, that the wilderness of the *Canadas* should remain open for the loyalist families, even to the second and third generation. I ask why you did not have this bounty continued? and whether it has been the fault of his Majesty, or the misconduct of his Executives? It is very evident that his Executives have, in all cases, endeavored to blind the eyes of the subjects: Their motive in this case has been, to shut the door against granting any more lands than they could possibly help, till such times as they made choice of and took to themselves the most valuable parts of the country. In this way the lands have been kept open for themselves, their children and connections, both

in this and the old countries, and there is not one of them, but who believes his lands will sell to Europeans, and that they will come forward in numbers sufficient to receive the most valuable parts of the Provinces; and at the same time they amuse themselves with the idea of having such a number as to fill all offices of profit and honor.

It appears that no American born can have the honor of presiding as governor, or have the privilege of a man born in *Great Britain*, and it appears as tho' the Americans are not to be trusted in the *Canadas*, let them have served and spent ever so much for his Majesty; not all that they can do will make them equal. They shew by their words and actions, that they think themselves made of better clay, and at the same time breathe a better quality of air, than it is possible for an American to enjoy; and that your eyes can be blinded to such a degree that you will pass over all the insults that is possible to be inflicted on any race of men. Your promises for deeds, free from expense, have been once done away, for a time. The rulers found much clamor and a general dissatisfaction, alarming universally. But notwithstanding their having taken the fees of three pence H. C. per acre from a number of applicants, they then dropped the idea of taking any fees from the Loyalists; they said nothing of refunding the sums then taken. It is, however, to be hoped, that the little property in lands which you now have will continue free, agreeable to the first and true intent and meaning of his Majesty.

It is very easy to be understood, from the conduct of the lords, that in all their proceedings, where it has not appeared too barefaced, or too easy for the common people to understand, they make it

a point to hold themselves at such a distance, that the farmers of the country are obliged to dance attendance, day after day, and many times for several weeks, and then return without having their business done.

Here let us take a view of the treatment towards the loyal families who were led to believe that three years provisions were ready for them on their arrival into the provinces. The heads and friends of these families came into the *United States* and conducted them over, to share in those great and most faithful promises.

It appears that they then stopped their having any allowance for the time they had been gone.—Some were away six months, others one year; some there were, who did not hear of his *most gracious benevolence*, till the time had almost expired, and in many instances was entirely done away; those poor families of this description were left to suffer and shirk for themselves. On making their applications in the most humble and submissive manner, they were treated with the language of his Majesty's British officers, "*Where have you been? What have you been doing? Be off! Dont ask us for favors! How dare you presume to trouble us?*" All this, and much more insulting language has been used to the most harmless and civil men of your country—men worthy of good and easy language, in order to encourage them in surmounting the troubles and difficulties of settling in such a distant wilderness; the least that could be afforded them ought to be mildness, after being drawn from home with great expectations of support.

It was a land wholly unknown to many of them, and to almost all their families; the country was at that time new, and not any houses to cover, ei-

ther persons or property ; many other ungrateful circumstances might be related ; in short, it is almost too severe for a delicate constitution, to be put in mind of those cruel scenes which his Majesty's subjects have been subjected to, and been forced to undergo.

Your Land-boards were formed and composed of the same body of men ; they then made grants in such forms and to such persons as they thought proper, by giving a certificate for a certain time, till his Majesty's patent deed should be issued. We find that in 1792, there was another authorized body of men, stiled *His Majesty's most Honorable Executive Council*, with a governor, or lieutenant-governor, to preside. Here we ought to find justice in the highest degree ; but we have seen them come forward, issuing their orders in an arbitrary, unfeeling manner, and declaring all those land warrants or certificates, void and of none effect ; at the same time they conceived themselves vested with power to disannul and destroy such papers as they thought proper—establishing new regulations in order to accumulate property to themselves, as their design was then to oblige those very men to apply to the Governor and Council for their Lands, or remain without them. It is very well known to every person of information in the *United States*, that every change of officers in your Provinces, make such regulations as will best serve to secure property to themselves. In such unfair proceedings, they find it necessary to counteract such regulations as have been heretofore made. They are very sanguine in saying that they sit and determine on proper ways and means, in such rules and regulations, as in their wisdom may seem meet, and that such orders are the words of the King, or in

plain speaking they are the same as tho' the King was personally present :—Such is the true faith of Government, and that pledged. In this the Subject must place his trust, and stand praying for mercy—knowing, that if he should make one misstep, the wrath of his rulers would be kindled against him. We have all been informed that his Majesty could not lye to his Subjects ; this has been handed down to us by the forefathers of America, and fixed in the hearts of almost all classes : His promises have been considered almost as sacred as the decrees of Deity. But in the present days, we find his Majesty accused of making many promises to his Subjects, which have never been fulfilled. This complaint has prevailed for nearly fifteen years in the *Canadas*. The voice of the most faithful and loyal men, ought to have some weight in the minds of their rulers, and at the same time they ought to have every tittle made good to them, in order to prevent the good old King from being unjustly censured. But in the present state of affairs, we find the subject turned aside by his rulers, and in many instances defrauded and kept out of his rights, till he first becomes the stupid man for a time, then casting off a degree of his troubles, awakens and says to himself, *Who am I?—I am one of his Majesty's most loyal Subjects ; I have served and my right I cannot obtain.* Here they know you are caught, and that you cannot leave the Provinces ; your dependence is there, and at the same time your landed property will not sell but for a small price. They laugh when they find that a man has become tired by their long delays ; they then take upon themselves to say, "*We have got rid of one tedious American ; he has been waiting a long time, but has returned home as ignorant as he came.*"

Such like treatment must be considered very unfeeling, when it is known by the least amongst you, that those men are paid and placed in office to serve the inhabitants, and ought to hear every man's case coolly and deliberately; every subject ought to be used with tenderness in this respect, but you are treated more like brutes than human beings. It has been observed by your Chief Justice, JOHN ELMSLEY, of the Upper Province—*“that the Americans were only fit for slaves and to cultivate wild lands, and that there are no gentlemen born and educated in the United States.”*

I am at a loss what construction to place on those assertions, whether your rulers do actually think that the Americans are such low, despicable beings as they are pleased to represent them to be, or on the contrary, whether they themselves are not afraid, in consequence of being placed so near the pure and free air of the *United States*. They know that you have an instinctive love of liberty, and that by crossing that chain of waters, you cannot forget that inestimable and glorious Constitution, which allows the privilege of speech and of the press, and founded upon the rights of Freedom, which God first intended for his people. It is not easy for you to stand with your jaws locked together, like men stupified with overbearing tyranny.—Should any of you or your children after you become ever so capable, they can never step forward in a British colonial government; they have men to serve in the different stations of office, and generally find such characters as are worn out with service, and such as have deprived themselves of a fortune by extravagant living.—Such men rule with a military spirit, and wish for its force to become superior and independent of the civil law:—

They are raised under a military discipline, and ambitious of standing armies to enforce such arbitrary laws as they may think proper.—You are ruled in the heat of passion, and in such a degree as belongs to tyrants only. Almost every day there are instances of orders of Council being disannulled; they find that his Majesty's faith has been pledged, and orders issued of a prior date. In this method of proceeding, the subject becomes afraid. Common sense tells every man, that when such faith is pledged, and then lost by unfair proceedings, he has a right to think that he shall loose his rights too. Persons in this situation undergo all that tongue can express or heart feel.

It is well known that the surveyed lands of the *Canadas* have been granted by written and verbal promises; there is not a man of feelings but knows it, when he has placed his location on lands that have been previously granted to others by the same authority. If they can pledge his Majesty's faith to one man, in one day, and the next day revoke the same, it is more than any number of men in their capacity have ever been guilty of. The subject seeing this, becomes cool towards his rulers; he is full of anger mixed with grief, and dare not consult his neighbors freely on the subject, altho' he knows that they feel the same overbearing insults; prudence and natural reason are his guide; he knows that if he speaks too freely at one time, perhaps, at another time, some person may have a grudge against him, and inform. *In this case,* says he to himself, *I will keep my tongue; I have some property and a family to suffer, besides the trouble that I may make myself; I will keep myself quiet and wait a little; something will appear bye and bye, and we shall have the same rights and priviledges of*

the United States. This is the natural reason why you dont all brawl together : But as you justly observe, you will break out and join as one man. Americans are fond of the privilege of speech and of the press, and a free toleration of religion. You can assemble and worship in such a way and manner as you please, but cannot be allowed the right of marrying in your several orders. We find that in all cases where there is any little perquisites, they are engrossed by the Episcopalian or Church of England Order. It would be too lengthy to explain every particular origin ; it will be sufficient to shew their present motives, which will be wholly defeated at some future period, not far distant—although it will occasion you a few disagreeable hours in order to secure the rights which are allowed by the God of nature. Your distance from the government of Great Britain will not allow you speedy relief. It is well known that it would be very hard and difficult, and attended with trouble and expense to place those grievances before the King and Parliament. Your men at the head of affairs in the *Canadas*, would obstruct and lay every impediment in the way, which you are sensible would have a great weight, and a moment's reflection will convince you, that the word or faith of an American would not be relied on ; your rulers in the first place would represent you as a set of riotous fellows, and that your conduct had in all cases been daring, and in no instance agreeable to the submissive obedience of a true British subject.—Such like information, with the idea that the Ministry at home have of the Americans, and their freedom, they will be led to believe that the more severe, tyrannical and military spirit poured out upon the people, the easier governed.

The mode of the present order in the House of Lords, is very singular. The few gentlemen who are sent into your country to govern, when acting in a legislative capacity, are stiled the House of Lords, and are inclined to object against almost every bill the House of Commons may think proper to adopt.* Those Lords have all the military force at their command ; in short, they are at the head of every office in your country ; they rule the Commons, or otherwise, refuse passing their bills ; they have the landed property at their disposal, and preside as Chief Judges, or Magistrates at the several Courts ; all concentrates in this body, and they are as liable to mistakes as others, and it is very evident that they do err both ignorantly and willfully ; they feel sensible that the unanimous voice of the people cannot alter or recal them from office. They have the assurance to tell the House of Commons that such and such moves shew plain republican principles, and such shall not pass our sanction.

You feel all this, and know that they are out of your reach. When you reflect on these things, you will find that those several members are unacquainted with the affairs of your country ; they are men brought up in high life—such as the industrious American is not accustomed to, or acquainted with.—They have never been five miles into your wilderness ;—they are wholly unacquainted with hardships, therefore do not know how to feel for their fellow creatures ;—they are unconcerned for you, and careless in obtaining information for the good of a subject.—Should they wish to be informed, they apply to some European as ignorant and

* In June, 1801, at York, out of a large number of necessary bills, presented by the House of Commons, only four passed.

unacquainted as themselves. It has been said of an Englishman, on his applying to the council* for his land, "*you are an Englishman, you cannot do in the woods like an American, they will take dry bread and cold pork, and set on a log in the woods and eat, and then to work ; you cannot do this, therefore the council tho't proper not to grant you any lands.*" We find that almost all the Europeans prefer the Americans, or rather the government of the *United States*; there are thousands coming in every year, and we scarcely find an instance of their settling in the British provinces, unless it is by the influence of some particular friends whereby they expect favors.— This shews how much they are attached to their own government : They find Freedom in the *United States*, and are lodged (when landed) into such a large field, and are much rejoiced when they see the friendly countenances of the Americans ; they are overjoyed and even kneel down on the ground, giving praise to God, that he in his goodness has provided them a land of Freedom, and has kept the hearts of that people. The *United States*, feeling tender towards such distressed Foreigners as may wish to share a part of the *equal rights* which belong to every human Being ; it appears that the door is not to be shut against them. The God of nature has given the *United States* into the care of such feeling hearts that it is out of their power to shut the door against the other nations, altho' a law has been passed to prevent their naturalization for a long term of years, nevertheless such a law could not long exist, it appears too contrary to the will of the all-wise Creator of the Universe. This continent is sufficient to hold all the emigrants that may wish to come

*Had the Englishman applied to purchase some of their private lands, he would have been courted by every officer in the Province.

and settle for a thousand years ; the more that a country settles and becomes cultivated, the more valuable the landed property ; but your rulers cannot see this, they are so contracted and avaricious that they think hard to allow any door open whereby the wilderness can be settled upon liberal principles ; — They are very loth to grant upon the smallest scale of their instructions, which is, (agreeable to his Majesty's proclamation) if a man is found worthy of any land, he cannot be allowed less than 200 acres, and any quantity from that to 1200 acres ; they do not see that every such man is making their lands valuable by settling and making improvements, and raising provisions ; and at the same time, there is no man without some friends or connections who will go on and settle with or near him, then the latter has his friends, and so has every man that goes in, till there becomes a chain so strong that it is hardly possible to break it. This I am persuaded is the case with the *Canadas* ; at this present time, I think it of but little use to close his Majesty's proclamations and instructions, thinking to stop or impede the settlement of that country ; natural reason will teach every man of common sense, that the number of Americans are too great already, and that there are men of spirit and abilities, and those men know that their friends will come in and settle, and that in all cases that may happen the people of the *United States* will be friends to the loyal subjects, and all others, even if the day should come that the settlers are so much oppressed that they cannot continue any longer under the arbitrary system under which they now live. They will, I say, meet with friendship, without malice of heart, should they require it, and become established in their rights, agreeable to the first and true intent

and meaning of his Majesty's proclamations, when signed with his signet and royal sign manuel, to his loyal and all others of his Majesty's subjects; and at the same time, all proceedings that may appear contrary to the true intent and meaning of such proclamation, will undoubtedly be taken into consideration, and each sufferer be rewarded accordingly, laying aside all orders and proceedings which have been done to the contrary. It has been observed as an old maxim, that no government ever built itself up by taking advantages to the ruin and destruction of its subjects, and your executives will never prosper, nor become great in honor. Instead of coming and residing among you for the good of the public, they come and take every undue advantage, disannulling one order and making others for the term of a few days; before a man can possibly ride from a remote part of the Province to the seat of government, that law will be said to have been altered and a new regulation taken place. All this tends to harrass the subject, and keep all things at a distance in the dark, and all in suspense.— It keeps your several officers in employment and under pay; they know that the longer they delay the giving of deeds and doing other public business, the longer they remain in their several stations; they think nothing of your hardships in travelling two or three hundred miles, time after time, and after all this trouble, you are left in the dark;— whereas, if you had men of feeling, and such as felt themselves obliging, your business might all be done on the first application. If they find that the farmer is not acquainted with the nature of the business which he wishes to have done, how easy would it be for them to give him instructions, and let the man return, well satisfied with the humane

treatment of those officers ; in this way a man would spend his life, and his all in defence of his superiors (when in danger ;) on the other hand, when the subject is turned aside like a troublesome low minded fellow, he feels all those hard words and actions, and dare not speak for himself ; when he hears the like done to his fellow creatures, it serves more and more to kindle within him, till one makes his case known to another, then a third hears and feels the same, till it becomes a universal complaint, made known to the public, when too late to be remedied.

There is another most serious thing to be thought of, that is, the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, which almost all of you have taken once, to the full satisfaction of the then existing order of your government.

Oath of Allegiance.

I, A. B. do sincerely promise and swear, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his Majesty, King George : So help me God.

Oath of Supremacy.

I, A. B. do solemnly promise and swear, that I do from my heart, abhor, detest and abjure, as impious and heretical, that damnable doctrine and position, that princes excommunicated or deprived by the Pope, or any authority of the See of Rome, may be deposed and murdered by their subjects, or any other whatsoever. And I do declare, that no foreign prince, person, prelate, state or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, superiority, pre-eminence or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within this realm : So help me God.

It has been ever held forth by the officers of government, that the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, were the only necessary oaths required from the Americans becoming actual settlers in the *Canadas* ; but it now appears that the present Lieutenant Governor, Gen. HUNTER, for some certain reason, unknown to the people, by proclamation issued in the year 1800, requires all persons in the province to appear before the proper persons appointed in the several districts, to take the following oath of Abjuration also.

Oath of Abjuration,

I, A. B. do truly and sincerely acknowledge, profess, testify and declare, in my conscience, before God and the world, that our Sovereign Lord, King George, is lawful and rightful heir of this realm, and all other his Majesty's dominions thereunto belonging. And I do solemnly and sincerely declare, that I do believe in my conscience, that not one of the descendants of the person who pretended to be prince of Wales, during the life of the late King James the second, and since his decease, pretended to be and took upon himself the style and title of King of England, by the name of James the Third, or of Scotland, by the name of James the Eighth, or that the style and title of King of Great Britain hath any right or title whatsoever to the crown of this realm; or any other the dominions thereto belonging; and I do renounce, refuse and abjure any allegiance or obedience to any of them. And I do swear, that I will bear faith and true allegiance to his Majesty, King George, and him will defend to the utmost of my power, against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatsoever, which shall be made against his person, crown or dignity. And I will do my utmost endeavor to disclose and make known to his Majesty and his successors, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which I shall know to be against him or any of them. And I do faithfully promise to the utmost of my power to support, maintain and defend the succession of the crown against the descendants of the said James, and against all other persons whatsoever; which succession, by an act entitled "an act for the further limitation of the crown, and better securing the rights and liberties of the subject," is and stands limited to the Princess Sophia, Electress and Dutchess Dowager of Hanover, and the heirs of her body, being protestants. And all these things I do plainly and sincerely acknowledge and swear, according to these express words by me spoken, and according to the plain and common sense and understanding of the same words without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation, whatever. And I do make this recognition, acknowledgement, abjuration, renunciation and promise, heartily, willingly and truly, upon the true faith of a Christian. So help me God.

If you are not loyal and true with once swear-
to be true to your King, you never will be true
subjects. It appears unjust and unconstitutional,
(if you are guided by a constitution) for to ask such
a thing of a subject. If you are suspected as a set
of rebellious and dangerous men; and you are to be
forced to swallow such binding obligations that you
never dare oppose any thing that may be imposed
on you, without the least murmuring, and that
this method of making the subject swear shall be
so binding, that he will bow down and say, "*all
this I have sworn, and if I break this oath, I shall
never dare to meet my Creator.*" In this I am pos-
itive, that no nation in the world is more sensible
of right and wrong than you are, and none that
hold an oath more sacred: I hope none of them

are or can be so thoughtless as to take an oath without first thinking of the nature of that oath, and searching into the true intent and meaning of it.—It is a political thing with all nations, to bind the subject in some way, and to guard against persons coming in and poisoning the minds of the people. It may be justly observed, says the writer,

He that imposes an oath makes it,
Not him that for convenience takes it;
Then how can it be said,
That a man breaks an oath he never made.

Oaths are as laws for the preservation of the subject, and so long as his property and person is protected, they are considered binding, and no longer; when any person or body of people cannot enjoy their rights and liberties, by reason of the overbearing conduct of their superiors; they have nothing to bind them to continue under that order, but a just right to go out of such kingdom or state, without hindrance or molestation, and to take with them their effects.—Those men cannot be considered as having perjured themselves, altho' it is held by the Bishops and Priests of England, that all such persons who once take this oath, are and ever must be bound; and if any person should at a future time be taken with an enemy bearing arms against his Majesty, such person would be considered as guilty and worthy of death, and to be executed without benefit of clergy. Notwithstanding such person may have been called from his Majesty's dominions, in the lawful and just pursuit of his property or friends, and have been taken sick, or that in the course of his time in another kingdom or state, there might have been some law or order, whereby he found it necessary to take the oath in that country, and by becoming a subject, he is liable to be called into actual service, and that perhaps against

his Majesty, would it not be very hard to execute this man, when found acting agreeable to the laws of the country in which he then resided; the same might be said of my friends in the *Canadas*, should they bear arms against their mother country, the *United States*. But we feel more liberal towards our friends, than to take their lives, because they have once taken an oath to support our Constitution, and by some prospect in pursuit of property and happiness, they have thought fit to go and search out that country, in order to better themselves. All those assertions of your priests and public officers, may serve to frighten weak minds, and keep the uninformed in a state of ignorance; they will tell you that the words are for you, and the force of them words are sufficiently binding, and you are not to place such constructions on them as may best suit your case; you are bound and must obey. Your Lords little think what a pretty figure they would make if they were to endeavor to stop people from going into the Provinces, or from coming out; it would require them and all his Majesty's forces to prevent a thing of this kind.—Mr. ROBERT I. D. GRAY has been pleased to say in the House of Commons, “*that he did not wish to have any more Americans come to settle, and that if any there were who disliked the laws, they might return.*” You need not thank him for his goodness in this respect; this gentleman knows nothing of the Americans, whether they are useful men or not; it is not long since he lost his clouts and plaids, therefore we are sensible that his head never brewed the first idea of such a plan;—your noble Lord, Chief Justice JOHN ELSLEY has been at the bottom of this business.

The Americans are never to be driven or frightened to death by the swelling words of a young puppy who is set up to bark for his noble Lords; they are true lovers of liberty; they are almost all of them acquainted with the right of suffrage at their elections, and many of them have experienced it; you are at this time made aliens, and the full term of seven years must pass away, before you can have the privilege of choosing members for the House of Commons or Parliament; at the same time they make you pay taxes as others. Mr. ANGUS McDONELL, one of the members of the House of Commons, observed, "*that he thought the law ought to be reconsidered at the Sessions in June 1801.*" The House of Lords thought it almost a crime to have such a bill presented before them, or even mentioned to be done. I here take the liberty to observe, that whilst to your officers of government all things appear to be in perfect safety, and general satisfaction throughout your Provinces, at the same time we may look around and see that in the very height of prosperity, both individuals and nations are in fact upon the brink of ruin; I cannot help being alarmed at the state in which I see your country at this present time. When the administrators of a government are puffed up with an opinion of their own wisdom, strength and safety, it is then that their conduct is impolitic and the consequences fatal, the conditions of kingdoms, as of individuals is variable. Permanent tranquillity is seldom seen in this world, and with circumstances the conduct of both individuals and of nations is seen to change. The success of your Lords in swindling the crown and subjects, serves to produce in them, arrogance, rashness and folly, which would probably have been otherwise, had they not been

placed into such an open field to extend and satisfy their ungrateful and avaricious anxiety for obtaining property, as well as enforcing such laws as will best cover and secure to themselves such rights and privileges as may make them safe—all this is done without any degree of moderation or feeling, either for crown or subject. How impolitic it is to see men appointed and sent from Great Britain for governors and their council, judges, &c. When they come to America, they are lost, they don't know how to proceed in any other way than the arbitrary system to which they have been educated. They first discover in the countenance of an American farmer, that which appears more bold and undaunted when in presence of his rulers, than is common for a man in a high degree of office at home; says the Lords "*this fellow looks saucy and impudent and I'll bring him down,*" he then proceeds in hard, harsh, ungentlemanlike treatment in conversation. Nevertheless you are obliged to put up with all the aspersions that men of their abilities are capable of. The situation of those men bring to my mind the following anecdote:—

"*Dionysius*, the great tarant of *Sicily*, shewed how far he was from being happy, even whilst he abounded in riches, and all that riches could procure. *Democles*, one of his flatterers, was complimenting him upon his power, his treasures and the magnificence of his royal state, and that no monarch ever was greater or happier than he. "Have you a mind," says the king to *Democles*, "to taste this happiness, and know by experience, what my enjoyments are, upon which the king ordered a royal banquet to be prepared, and placed *Democles* into a gilded couch, covered with rich embroidery, and side boards loaded with gold and silver plate of

immence value, and pages of extraordinary beauty to wait on him at the table, and to obey his commands with the greatest readiness and most profound submission ; neither ointments, chaplets of flowers, nor rich perfumes were wanting ; his table was loaded with the most exquisite delicacies of every kind. This made *Democles* think himself among the gods ; but amidst all this glorious happiness, he sees, let down from the roof exactly over his neck, as he lay indulging himself in state, a glittering sword hung by a single hair ; by this he saw destruction threatening him from on high, which soon put a stop to his joy and revelling ; all this great pomp with immense treasures, gave him no longer any pleasures, he even dreads to put forth his hand to the table, he then throws off the chaplet of roses, he hastens to remove from his dangerous situation, and begs the King to restore him to his former humble condition, having no desire to enjoy any longer, such a dreadful kind of happiness."

I should not be surprised in these days, to see several of his Majesty's most honorable executive members, relieving themselves in the same way ;—they will be as sick of their situations as *Dionysius*, who is styled the great tyrant of *Sicily*, but never could possibly shew any more arbitrary and unfeeling conduct in obtaining his riches, than has been shewn by your rulers in the *Canadas*—they are absolute, they are not afraid of king nor Parliament, they are the first set of rulers that has been known to rob both the crown and the subject, in order to secure property to themselves, they will be glad bye and bye to find a *Democles* to offer their honors and treasures, they will be at a loss where to find one that dare accept of the enjoyments which they have so great an idea of at this time.

In parts superior, what advantage lies?
 Tell if you can, what it is to be wise!
 It's but to know, how little can be known,
 To see all others faults, and feel our own.—*Pope.*

Could those men be made sensible of all this, and lay aside all national prejudice, they have it in their power to unite the inhabitants, and command the love and attention of almost every American, that in case of any convulsion or rupture they would fly with heart and hand to the assistance and relief of their rulers, with the least notice that could be given, which would be much better for them than to be known consulting, year after year, every measure that will bind the subject in the most barbarous manner, not giving their assent to laws the most wholesome for the public good (when moved by the House of Commons) at the same time paving the way for further and further opportunities of oppression, by obliging the subject to take the oath of Allegiance time after time, as they may think proper to order, and by taking hold of every little catch in such bills as the members think proper to lay before them, and then to give sanction to such as will give themselves power over the subjects; your lords are very ready to see faults in the subjects. But in themselves they cannot see any wrong, they are puffed up with their own vanity, and at the same time are afraid of allowing the common rights and privileges of mankind, for fear that they will not be tho't great men in the station in which they are placed.—Could your most honorable and noble Lords have sentiments of moderation sufficient to reflect for a moment, they would perhaps, find that greatness does not secure persons of rank from infirmity of body or mind—that the gout or fever will not spare the Lord sooner than the subject, and that all your guards and centinels will not prevent the

approach of Death upon your high fed, gouty governors, which you have imported into your Provinces, as tho' they were of a better kind of men.— It is to this day very common that the Americans import some old, wind-broken horses for the purpose of covering, for the sake of the breed only, but I never in my travels have heard of spavin, ring-bone governors, sent to a foreign country to bare rule over the people, except in his Majesty's provinces in America: It is a shame to the American name, that such impositions should be put upon them.

Did they but only consider what a figure they make in the eye of the discerning world, they would soon think of altering their line of conduct; their wisdom is easily understood to be at best, but a kind of low cunning. Their honors are but the applause of fools, dazzled by the riches of knaves, who flatter them for what they hope to gull; the arts of these cruel spoilers, only overreach the weak, or unguarded; the eye of experience pierces the cob-web veil of hypocrisy. Not to mention a more penetrating eye, which, I am sure they cannot deceive; but let them go on (if they will) and take the advantage while they can, it will not be long that they will have it in their powers to overreach any one of you; the passage in the good book says "Craft is but for a day." O! fools whom art thou deceiving? They are deceiving themselves.— Of what, I ask, are those men cheating themselves? I answer, of their reputations, prosperity and peace; and preparing rods for their own punishment.....

Try what repentance can—what can it not;
Yet what can it, when one cannot repent.

Those men little think of the good effect that a reformation might have, could their haughty

pride be brought low with their own free will and accord :—

Bow stubborn knees, and hearts with strings of steel ;
Be soft as sinews of the new born babe,
————— and all may yet be well.

For myself I can say that I am not ashamed of my country, let those haughty Britons say what they please in disparagement of the citizens of the *United States* ; let them say that we are not gentlemen, and only fit to cultivate wild lands, and to serve as slaves, and that our Judges and Rulers are nothing but tavern-keepers and retailers ; and at the same time, boast of their most Gracious Sovereign, Lord *George* the III. King of the three United Kingdoms, saying that he is entitled to more annual pay than all the Congress of the *United States* ; they speak those things in the heat of wine and passion, they might do well to stop and make a calculation upon the enormous sum that they are in debt ; should they do this they would find that such large salaries are not paid, by monies so justly earned, and peaceably obtained by the citizens of the *United States* and cheerfully paid to defray the expence of the government. It is too common for those characters in the *Canadas* to boast of their British influence in the *United States*, that it will become so powerful, that they will divide the southern and northern states, and that the northern or eastern states will become united in the British form of government, saying that it is the best system and the most natural to the Eastern States, as they are the children of Great Britain, and cannot forget the good old aristocratical form of government.— It would be laughable to see any one attempt to raise his head in the Eastern States in support of a standard of this kind. In the *Canada's* nothing could give a man greater applause ; it was the plan

on which your country was first settled. It was agreed by a certain number of characters that the lands should be granted in feignories or lordships; had the country farmers been duped in such a way, it would have been necessary to have imported lords from Europe to rule in and over each feignory; in the same plan they intended to bind the subject in a way that he could not sell his land.— The deeds issued at that time were drawn to the subject and his heirs, only, intending to set up a little aristocracy in each lordship; they flattered themselves, that in that early day, the worn out loyalists would be glad of any title to their lands; they found however, that they were not to be duped in this way; the deeds that were issued and sent out, were returned by the farmers, at which their rulers began to think that such a plan would never do. They then came on the plan of free and common sockage (by them said to be fee-simple.) But they will never make fortunes by selling deeds of this description. It is enough to choke a person of common spirit and ambition to read their present form of deeds; they are stuffed full of dry covenants, and the subject becomes bound in the strongest manner, and if found deficient in one point forfeits the whole. Again, let us take a view of his Majesty the King, that your little lords boast of having such a fortune by way of salary. I allow him to have a fortune, and to be a good man, and one who, acting himself, wishes to weigh justice in the scale of reason, to every nation and subject. The King is not to be blamed for what his Executives do. They are as a large family of rude, haughty and imperious boys, combined to cheat and defraud the good old man (their father, the king.) When in his presence, they are all submission, when out of

fight, their heads are together forming plans to sport upon his property, and while the property lasts, they are to some friends and to others enemies, using their endeavors to raise quarrels with those whom they call enemies; at the same time they are ready to join in all neighborhood quarrels and disputes. The same has taken place against France, till they have involved their father and themselves in such a series of difficulties that he has become ashamed, and is loaded with such burthens of expences, that he has thought proper to drop the idea of being any longer styled, "a Defender of the Faith of France, &c." And should this profligate family of his continue to bare rule, in and over his several territories in other countries, where his Majesty now claims, those impolitic and overbearing youths in their avoricioufness for speculation, both on the father and his poor subjects, they will, I say, undoubtedly impoverish, distress and provoke those provinces, till you will, by some misconduct, loose the faith of his Majesty, and be left like *France* and the *United States*, to govern and take care of themselves, leaving the people to make choice of such men to rule them from time to time, as the majority shall or may think proper. It is the present situation of us in the *United States*, and much the same in *France*, and it is reasonable to believe that in some day or other, not far distant, the *Canadas* will loose the faith of their good old king, and brought on too by his blind executives. It is surprising to think that men will let their haughty imperious pride, mixed with national prejudice, be their ruin and final destruction; but such is the ambition of those who stile themselves the great and true born sons of *Great-Britain*. When they see our open free and independant countenance,

they startle at the first sight of such men, in which it is very common for them to employ some dirty and unsuspected fellow to listen and eaves-drop, in order to find out the business of such persons. This is the method in which they receive our American gentlemen. I hope I do not offend against modesty in saying, that in the *United States* any private citizen, at all times, by day or by night, can have easier access to the President, Vice-President, &c. than is possible to be had by the subjects in the *Canadas*, to their rulers at noon day. I feel myself wounded when I hear of my friends being obliged to put up with such barefaced insults, and all the national reflections that it is possible to be made use of, and to men of respectability, who have taken lands under his Majesty's Proclamations, with a good and true intent of being peaceable subjects. every such person feels himself degraded, and will not be that useful man to his Majesty, which he otherwise would have been. It is very common to hear his Majesty's officers sneering, and at the same time looking down upon our American gentlemen, when in the lawful pursuit of property; they ask, "*Is it possible for a farmer, like this man to be a gentleman? is it possible that such a man can ever have had the title of Colonel or General?*" Economy and strict industry amongst the Americans, gains great applause and credit to the person who is so ambitious, as to exert himself in that way, and we do not think him the mean man for all this; we wish to have our farmers become as much of the informed gentleman, as the British officers who are set to rule in *America*. The government of the *United States* affords encouragements to education as well as industry. This continent is placed in one of the most happy situations in the known

world. Almost all nations are to this day wishing to share in her enjoyments. She has become one of the greatest fields of general information in the universe, and it is wrong for any person to imagine that any of this race of enlightened people, should be brought to bow and dance attendance to a few characters, whose haughtiness deprives them of the common complaisance of our country farmers. If they were as gigantic as their desires, this vast continent could not contain them.

I submit to the discerning world on which side the advantage lies, when a comparison is made between British haughtiness and American experience; the very scenes and customs of which they have only read, we have both seen and experienced. What they know by reading we know by action.— They are pleased to slight our mean birth, we may despise their mean characters. Want of birth and fortune are their objections against us, we may say, that the want of personal worth is an objection against them: But are not all men of the same species; what can make a difference between one man and another, but the endowments of the mind?

If the British officers have reason to despise us, let them envy the honors bestowed upon us; they take care to talk of great things which they have done; let them envy our labors and the dangers which we have undergone for our country's freedom.

The following, the reader will understand to be the language of Dr. FRANKLIN, in opposition to the treaty between *Great Britain* and the *United States*. "The two countries," says FRANKLIN, "if necessary to their products to each other, will seek an intercourse. *Great-Britain* is famed for perfidy and double dealing, her polar star is inter-

est, artifice with her is a substitute for nature, &c. &c." I myself as an individual, am led to believe that, by the conduct of your Lords, they are afraid of the consequences of the freedom which so justly belongs to the subject, therefore every obstacle is put in the way to prevent your receiving light* and becoming happy. I am sorry to find that the treaty is at this time so very injurious to the *Canadas*; it would be happy for you, if you could have had the river St. Lawrence open to both nations—your produce would have been much higher and readier market, as a strife in trade is always good for the farmer; but being confined to one set of merchants, and them to fix both their asking and giving prices, and at the same time those merchants are combined together for the mutual advantage of trade, and a certain set of them have a word in the ears of your lords, and some indeed belong even to your legislative councils; could you but have an equal chance with your neighbours in the *United States*, your local situations are equal to any on the continent, your soil is good, extending many hundred miles upon the waters of the St. Lawrence, it produces wheat, corn, beef, pork, &c. in abundance, and in the course of time it is to be hoped you will have an equal chance with the other parts of the continent, and that money may circulate for the benefit and ease of the inhabitants.—But so long as the present chain is kept up, by and between your executives and merchants, you must look for every thing in the dark, and when you think that you have received light (in the search of your rights)

* General Hunter, in the month of August, 1801, on his return from the Upper into the Lower Province, finding newspapers in circulation from the *United States*, issued positive orders to the several Postmasters within the province line, ordering them to prevent particular papers from passing, as they were conceived to be too much upon the republican side.

it will prove to have that double meaning that Dr. Franklin observes the nation to be so fond of, in short it is true that in all cases where the executives or ministers put forth any order, or proclamation or in making any contract, they use at the same time, every art to leave some place whereby a hold can be had, and keep themselves in readiness to improve it—they will tell you this day that all and every thing set forth to view is as clear and easy to be understood as A B & C—you will proceed to act and guide yourself accordingly, the next interview they will declare all void, every thing as black as jet, and say how dare you to put such constructions on our proclamations, we will let you know, sir, that you are not in the *States*—your nobles do not think that they can treat an American farmer with any language that is ungentleman-like.—A native Indian observed, on being asked by a white man, how it came that all Indians would lye, says the native *"we only tell lies to the white men, who taught us."*—I hope that the Americans who are at the same school in the *Canadas* will not think that they may become deceivers because such lessons are taught them daily—on the other hand; it is to be hoped that they will use their utmost endeavors in support of all such rules and orders as may be adopted;—let your lords know that you are not such rebels as they may be pleased to take you for.—I should be sorry to hear of any of my countrymen, who would commit themselves by being the first that shall rise up and say, *"We cannot endure these arbitrary and overbearing insults any longer."* It is to be hoped that you will remember the good book which tells us, *"He that endures to the end shall be saved; and every one shall be rewarded according to his merit."*—

If you are not to expect any reward from those men, serve them faithfully, in due submissive obedience to their orders. If you know at the same time that you cannot merit any thing, or that you are to be cheated and defrauded out of your own just and equitable rights. You will remember the overruling hand of Providence, and think that all this is only for a time. The day is at hand when your case will be heard coolly by such men as you may see fit to appoint.

Here let us take a view of the Proclamation of Governor SIMCOE, issued on his arrival at *Quebec*; a flattering thing to thousands, who immediately hovered around its standard, and embarked their labor and property in order to fulfil its contents.

A PROCLAMATION,

To such as are desirous to settle on the Lands of the Crown, in the Province of Upper Canada.

By his Excellency, JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE, Esq. Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the said Province, and Colonel commanding his Majesty's forces, &c. &c. &c.

BE IT KNOWN to all concerned, that his Majesty hath by his Royal Commission and Instructions, to the Governor, and in his absence, to the Lieutenant Governor, or person administering the government for the time being of the said Province of Upper Canada, given authority and command to grant the lands of the Crown in the same by patent, under the great seal thereof; and it being expedient to publish and declare the Royal intention respecting such grants and patents, I do accordingly hereby make known the terms of grant and settlement to be:—

1st. That the crown lands to be granted by townships; if an inland township, of ten miles square, and if a township on navigable waters, of nine miles in front, and twelve miles in depth, to be run out and marked by his Majesty's surveyor, or deputy surveyor general, or under his sanction and authority.

2d. That only such part of the township be granted as shall remain, after a reservation of one seventh part thereof for the support of a Protestant clergy, and one other seventh part thereof, for the future disposition of the crown.

3d. That no farm lot shall be granted to any one person, which shall contain more than 200 acres; yet the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the government, is allowed and permitted to grant to any person or persons such further quantity of land as they may desire, not exceeding one thousand acres over and above what may have been before granted to them.

4th. That every petitioner for lands make it appear, that he or she is in a condition to cultivate and improve the same, and shall, besides taking the usual oaths, subscribe a declaration (before proper persons to be

for that purpose appointed) of the tenor of the words following, viz. "I A. B. do promise and declare that I will maintain and defend to the utmost of my power, the authority of the King in his Parliament, as the supreme Legislature of this Province."

5th. That applications for grants be made by petition to the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the government for the time being, and where it is advisable to grant the prayer thereof, a warrant shall issue to the proper officer for a survey thereof, returnable within six months, with a plan annexed, and be followed with a patent granting the same, if desired, in free and common lockage, upon the terms and conditions, in the Royal instructions expressed, and herein after suggested.

6th. That all grants reserve to the crown, all coals, commonly called sea-coals, and mines of gold, silver, copper, tin, iron and lead, and each patent contain a clause for the reservation of timber for the royal navy of the tenor following:

"And provided also, that no part of the tract or parcel of land hereby granted to the said ~~and his heirs~~ and his heirs, be within any reservation heretofore made and marked for us, our heirs and successors, by our surveyor-general of woods, or his lawful deputy; in which case, this our grant for such part of the land hereby given and granted to the said

and his heirs forever as aforesaid, and which shall upon a survey thereof being made, be found within any such reservation, shall be null and void, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding."

7th. That the two sevenths reserved for the crown's future disposition, and the support of a protestant clergy, be not levered tracts, each of one seventh part of the township, but such lots or farms therein, as in the surveyor general's return of the survey of the township, shall be described as set apart for these purposes, between the other farms of which the said township shall consist, to the intent, that the lands so to be secured, may be nearly of the like value with an equal quantity of the other parts to be granted out as aforesaid.

8th. That the respective patentees are to take the estates granted to them severally, free of all quit rent, and of any other expences, than such fees as are or may be allowed to be demanded and received by the different officers concerned in passing the patent and recording the same, to be stated in a table authorized and established by the government and publicly fixed up in the several offices of the Clerks of the Council, of the Surveyor-General, and of the Secretary of the Province.

9th. That every patent be entered upon record within six months from the date thereof, in the Secretary's or Registrar's office, and a docket thereof in the Auditor's office.

10th. Whenever it shall be advisable to grant any given quantity to one person, of one thousand acres or under, and the same cannot be found by reason of the said reservation and prior grants within the township in the petition expressed, the same, or what shall be requisite to make up to such person the quantity advised, shall be located to him, in some other township, upon a new petition for that purpose to be preferred.

And of the said several regulations, all persons concerned are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal, in the city of Quebec, the 7th day of February, in the 32d year of his Majesty's reign, and in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE.

By his Excellency's command,

THOMAS TALBOT, acting Secretary.

This proclamation has been circulated throughout the U. States, under the authority of his Majesty's royal instructions. By this we find that the

lands in the Canadas were to be granted in townships, and that the governor and his council had it in their power to proceed accordingly. We find that upwards of one hundred and fifty warrants of survey for townships, under the governor's hand and seal were issued within two years from the date of this proclamation. After a lapse of five years, viz. in May, 1797, it was declared that the faith of government had not been pledged to any of the applicants for townships, except in two instances only, altho' the same encouragement had been given throughout both the Canadas.

An Extract of the Minutes of Council, June 11th, 1798.

His Excellency reminded the board of what he mentioned on the 17th of April, 1797, respecting the waste lands, to wit :

“ That on his coming to the administration of the Province, he found that an alteration in the terms of disposing of the waste lands of the crown was in contemplation by his Majesty's Ministers.”

The intension of the alteration then in contemplation was, to raise by the disposal of the waste lands in future (excepting in those cases where the faith of government had already been pledged to the applicants) a fund to be applied towards defraying the expences of the provincial government.

His Excellency laid before the board an instruction which he had since received, under his royal sign manual, which being read was ordered to be entered, viz.

(L.S.) GEORGE R.

INSTRUCTIONS to our trusty and well beloved ROBERT Prescott, Esq. Lieut. General of our forces, Captain General and Governor in Chief of our Province of *Lower Canada* in America; or in his absence, to the Lieut. Governor, or Commander in Chief of our said Province, for the time being. Given at our Court at St. James the 15th day of August 1797, in the thirty-fifth year of our reign.

“ Whereas, by our general instructions to our Capt. General, or Governor Commanding in Chief, in and over our Province of *Lower Canada*, bearing date at St. James the 16th day of September 1791,—It is declared amongst other things to be our will and pleasure, that the Townships

therein mentioned, and the respective allotments within the same together with the lands to be reserved as aforesaid, shall be run and laid out by our Surveyor General of lands for the said Province, or some skilful person authorised by him for that purpose, which surveys together with the Warrants and Grants, for the respective allotments shall be made out for and delivered to the several Grantees free of any expense of fees whatever, than such as may be payable to the different officers, according to the table of fees, already established upon Grants of Lands made in the said Province :—

Now our will and pleasure is, that the said Townships therein mentioned, and the respective allotment within the same, together with the lands to be reserved as therein aforesaid shall be run and laid out by our Surveyor General of lands for the said Province, or some skilful person authorised by him for that purpose ; which surveys together with the Warrants and Grants on payment of such fees as shall, from time to time, be established by us, under our signet and sign Manual, or by our order in that behalf, signified by one of our principle Secretaries of State.

G. R.

Here we find the honorable man, one who comes forward in the support of right, and after placing the above instructions before the board, he continues to inform them that he had further Instructions, which were as follows ;—

1. That in those cases where the faith of government had been pledged to the applicants according to the report of the council of the 24th May 1797, for specific quantities of land the grants should pass upon the same fees that had already passed the seal.

2d. His Excellency said that although the faith of government had not been specifically pledged in cases when persons petitioned for townships on behalf of themselves and their associates, yet as much as some of them had fully evinced their sincerity in carrying the settlement of the land into effect, and have upon the faith of the government given them by his majesty's government in *Canada*, embarked their labour and property in surveying and allotting, the townships they so petitioned for, and in making effectual settlements thereon. It is ordered that such persons “ should have the full extent of his Majesty's instructions—viz, 1200 acres to each associated Grantee ;” this is meant to extend to such a number as will be sufficient to take up all the grantable lands in said township, at the rate of 1200

acres each. We find that in the third direction agreeable to his majesty's Proclamation, that in case of a township not being fully settled with more than half the number sufficient they are allowed one half of such township, and the other half if granted, to be on condition of immediate settlement thereon.— In the 4th direction his Majesty has been pleased to say that where a person or number of associates have petitioned for a township, and have been to the trouble of exploring the same, although they cannot be thought to have done much towards evincing any very serious intention with respect to carrying the settlement thereof into effect; yet he allows all such persons, one fourth part of the township on conditions of immediate settlement, and subject to the fees of six pence, H. C. per acre, for the public service. In the 5th direction his Majesty extends in goodness so far as to direct the executive council, to consider all such persons who purchased the pretensions of others, who had become discouraged by the long delays which took place in the passing the grants, he allows them to stand in the place of the applicants, whose pretensions they so purchased, and to receive grants in the same way, and same quantities, and on the same conditions as the first applicants.

Here we find a spark of honour yet left, this is sufficient to evince the sincerity of his Majesty and ministers at home, and that for some gracious intention, not known to the public at large, and perhaps not generally understood by the executives, nor do we believe that they had any right to an explanation it was their special orders from their Royal Master. He has as good a right to keep all things in the dark from them as they have from us; and its their duty to obey him, they are placed as servants to do the will of their master, and in strict sense they

are the servants of the people and are paid as such. How, let me ask, dare they supersede his Majesty's proclamations? take a view of Governor HUNTER and council, in their proceedings against Mr. ANGUS M'DONELL, who held the office as Clerk of the House of Commons, commissioned under the King's Great Seal, those several Lords took upon themselves to have the privy seal, supersede the Great Seal, and to appoint a man in Mr. M'DONELL's place; this shews how much they regard his Majesty's faith; they conceived that they had effected two grand purposes—1st. To cramp Mr. M'DONELL, that he should not stand forward for the rights of the people, by admonishing one man of abilities, and bringing him down to a humble submissive state of obedience to their haughty tyranny; this they say, is admonishing hundreds—this is the only way to keep the people down, and in an easy state of ignorance, and WE as rulers of the country, must watch over every man of any influence and by keeping down a certain few, WE rule the whole with ease. It is plain to be seen, that they are destroying his majesty's faith. They granted by his order, and took away without his order; and have since reserved his instructions, as are herein set forth, for the granting of such townships, without delay.—Do they think that the people of the *Canadas* are all without feelings, like sticks or stones? that when they went on and commenced their settlements in the wilderness, that they should be obliged to remain in a howling desert, without the advantage of schools and agreeable society? No, you all believed in the proclamation, and supposed that when a settlement had commenced, the lands would be kept open for your neighbours and acquaintance to come on, and settle with or near you, and that every man who went into the

province, and made himself active in the fulfilment of the requisitions of the government, would meet with applause and not reproach. How dare they conduct in this way, if they were not like mad men, they would think of their families, and the peaceful enjoyment of their property. But property obtained in a way as they have done theirs, cannot afford them any enjoyment. It is like stolen goods, the more they have, the more unhappy, and always afraid of meeting the right owner, thinking that he will challenge his right. They must know that if they should loose their property in the *Canadas* that the curse will light on themselves, without any blessing unless it should be that of being sent to *Botany Bay*. Their Royal master cannot do any better for them—they wish to hold the whole country and make every person stand in awe. I speak without dread or fear—I see no cause to fear—truth is my guide and by it will I defend myself. I hope that I am possessed of sentiment and moderation sufficient, that I shall not be blinded and not see my own errors. Who among them will dare to say that I exaggerate; there are many things that cannot be over done by language, and this is one. When I took my pen to begin this work, I thought to have comprehended the whole in a few pages, but I find it would take volumes to explain the plans and proceedings in that country which have taken place.

I declare before my God and the world that not one single thought of this publication, ever entered my mind till within twelve months past. But seeing the iniquitous proceedings of your rulers, I became pressed to unfold such of their conduct as I knew to be unjust, but not having had access to the several offices I cannot give the day and date of every particular point, although I am in possession of

the most essential proclamations and debates. I took this publication upon myself, knowing it my indispensable duty to collect facts and pen them for the public good. I cannot drop this part of the subject before I go farther; I must remind you of the answer made by the Chief Justice and five members of the *Lower Province*, to Gov. Prescott as an excuse for not proceeding to grant the townships. "We, (say the council) declare it to be our intention to prevent the obtrusive race, bordering on this province (meaning the people of the *United States*) from coming on and taking lands by the robust title of occupancy. His Excellency Gov. Prescott in this case, used both feeling and forceable arguments.—He said he did not conceive, that they were an obtrusive race, as they had been called from home with most faithful promises by proclamation. His Excellency could not think that the settlers had any such intentions. It appears plain and easy to be understood, that when such persons came forward with their families and property, that they had a reason to believe in the encouragement held out by the government—that they should have the privilege of forming respectable neighborhoods, which has been the method in the *United States*, that when a settlement once began to form the lands are all kept open for such persons as wish to come forward and purchase. We find that the officers of government are willing and would be glad to sell and settle their lands in the same way—they have defeated the plan of selling the crown lands. When any person applies for his land, it is common for them to keep him back for a long time, thinking that if he becomes discouraged by obtaining under his majesty's proclamations, he will purchase of them. A moments reflection might tell them that their lands will not sell to *Americans*, while under the

present order of things ; and if they were not blind and deaf to every thing that is honorable, there would be no need of informing them.

Here let us look at the proceedings of the council of the *Upper Province* in obtaining the townships of *Norwich* and *Dereham*, between the waters of the river *Le Traunch* or *Thames*, and *Lake Eric*.

1st. We find in his majesty's instructions, that he recommends selling certain blocks or tracts of the waste lands of the crown to help defray the public expence of the provincial government. The lands to be sold at Public auction to the highest bidder, his instructions are further, that the lands are not to be sold for less than six pence currency per acre. The Lords on receiving those instructions became awake at once, and began to form plans for speculation on his majesty's property ; they then put up notifications giving notice to such as were desirous of purchasing some of the wild lands of the crown ; viz. " These are to make known, that the townships of *Norwich* and *Dereham* will be sold in blocks of three thousand acres each, to the highest bidder, and that such bids must be made on paper, and be placed in the proper office, and on such a day an examination will take place, and the lands set off to the highest bidder." We find then when the time had come, for the bids to be made known, they made a trivial excuse, saying that the surveys were not yet completed, or that Gen. HUNTER had arrived in *Quebec*, and that he must be consulted on the subject ; this appears only to lull the several bidders asleep, that it might give themselves a better opportunity. They then called the several officers of government and some very particular friends, and made some chimney corner bids, taking care to go something higher than his Majesty's instructions, in order to make the sales valid. Those

blocks or townships of land, amounting to about one hundred thousand acres, were sold at about eight pence per acre; at the same time there were many persons who stood ready to give half a dollar per acre. This I call swindling both the crown and the subjects.

It would be too lengthy to explain the whole of their intrigues in this work. This is a form of their proceedings, in both their public and private manners, which the word of God bears testimony against.

Here you have a review of their proceedings against Mr. BURZEY, a man whom Gov. SIMCOE took by the hand in the latter end of the year 1795, or beginning of 1796, making him promises of certain townships of land, if he would place forty actual settlers on each township. Gov. SIMCOE was informed that Mr. BURZEY had a large number of *Germans*, whom he brought to *America*, in order to form a settlement on some of the wild lands. Mr. BURZEY took up with the offers of the Governor, and placed on his settlers, made roads, erected mills and built houses, at a great expence; at which time the north shore of *Lake Ontario* was a wilderness. Those people, on their first setting out in this new country, could not be considered very active; nevertheless they have become serviceable in that country, and comfortable in their situations. But we find their agent, Mr. BURZEY, turned aside with 1200 acres of the wilderness lands, which at that time could have been purchased for 150 dollars. His townships were declared by the Council to be recinded, which induced him to apply to Governor PRISCOTT, of the Lower Province, who advised him to return to *York*, and make a proper demand of his land, and if he did not suc-

ceed, his Excellency recommended him to go home, and that he would place proper information before his Majesty. It appears that almost three years had lapsed before Mr. BURZEV obtained an order in his behalf, which order arrived at York in the month of October, 1801, directing the Executive Government to allow him to locate between sixty and seventy thousand acres, on some of the unlocated land in the Province. We find that they have found some clause in the instructions, whereby they could prevent him having the land in his townships, which he had made valuable by settlement. The Lords took upon themselves to call into the Council office a number of young men, whom they had previously denied having a right to land in the Province, as they had no families, and could not be considered in a situation to cultivate lands; nevertheless, in order to disappoint and injure this man, they collected a number sufficient to take up all the grantable lands in his townships. They think to answer several purposes in this proceeding; first, to do away his right to the land in the townships, and at the same time prevent others from having any plausible pretensions to their's; they could not bear to think that they had once done away his claim, and yet be defeated. It is a mortifying circumstance for them to think that their royal master should find them out in their fraudulent proceedings, and they obliged to become the ridicule of the whole country: But such is their unfriendly conduct towards every person of ambition. I cannot take upon me to say that your country is in any greater danger, than from those men, who ought to be the fathers of the country. The only security the country has to boast of, is that of being so little known, or rather supposed to be of so little worth. But oftentimes things are coveted because they are

little known ; enemies will see openings we know not of. It is known to the world that the country is not in a situation to defend itself against an enemy of any force. It is only a scattering settlement, bordering on the waters of the *St. Lawrence*. Its length is many hundred miles from East to West, but its settlements are like a thread, and almost as easily separated in any place. But if it does not prove to be the case, that the few subjects in the *Canadas*, I say, if they do not want them to help protect the persons and property of government, it is no reason why they should deprive them of their just and equitable rights. They loose the friendship of the Loyalists and all others of his Majesty's subjects. They ought to come forward like men of honor and strict integrity, and act up to both written and verbal promises. Could this be done, it would prevent things more serious from taking place. Giving each individual his right cannot be considered giving advantages into the hands of the common people ; but it would hold them in readiness to give protection to their rulers.

Let us here take a view of the conduct of the Executives towards Mr. BRANDT, a man who has distinguished himself as a brave and valiant supporter of the same cause, for which all his loyal subjects left the *United States*. BRANDT's attachment to his royal master, led him to take to the standard under his Majesty, at an early stage of the revolution. It is well known to all classes of people throughout the *United States*, that Mr. BRANDT, with a large number of natives, left their property, which they had enjoyed, under a high state of cultivation, and that in the garden of the world, at the same time he having influence over several other nations, forming one system, they all looked up to him as their commander in chief ; no people have been mo-
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loyal and true—Mr. BRANDT has taken much trouble to keep all other natives friendly to the British government; his natural attachment to the Mohawks led to make some provisions for them, in the way of lands that they might have a home after the long fatigues of the revolution. Mr. BRANDT at that time, had the privilege granted him to search out some remote place in the wilderness for himself together with his nations all looking up to him as their principal guide, and for them he undertook to obtain a country or tract of land to compensate in a small degree for the one which they had lost; on application to the commander in chief of the *Canadas*; it then appeared that it was his Majesty's will and pleasure, that a tract should be allowed Mr. BRANDT, six miles wide on each side of the *Grand River*, from the mouth to its highest source, at that time the country was wholly unknown to the white people, the nations had not any one to intrude on them, they settled in peace having assurance of enjoying that little spot without hindrance or molestation. They are not void of all sensations; it must be a disagreeable thing for them to think of and bring to mind the glorious land which they left in the *United States*, and at the same time consider themselves settled on lands formerly belonging to the *Mississaga Nation*. It must be very gauling when settled under the hands of a nation whose numbers are very great, and once a powerful enemy; and at the same time it is considered very degrading for one nation to accept a place of refuge from another.

We may think for a moment, how the Americans would feel to ask protection of the *Canadas* under *Great-Britain*. Mr. BRANDT and his nations have had to look up to the following nations; first, to *Great-Britain* for the grant or patent seal of the

small tract of land promised them, and for protection in their rights ; and in the next place watched by the nations of Indians, and even parties have been encouraged by the tools of government, in order to weaken the power of Mr. BRANDT over the natives ; in the third place they did not know the hour that the *United States* and *Great-Britain* might fall out, and they fall a prey into the hands of the nation whom they had fought against. This has rendered those people very unhappy in their prospects.—It is very hard that when Mr. BRANDT has done so much for his Majesty in keeping good the British footstep in the *Canadas*, and that it was his Majesty's will and pleasure that he and his nations should enjoy that tract of country, on which he now lives, and that by an order issued by the hand of the then commanding general at *Quebec*, who was acting in and over the *Canadas* as the King himself, and by him the faith of government was pledged to Mr. BRANDT.

A number of years have elapsed—this land becomes of some value. Mr. BRANDT has had repeated applications for the sale of a part of his lands to actual settlers. He took council with his nation and then agreed to spare some of those lands, as they had been used to live among the white people, they considered it a great privilege. Mr. BRANDT is not wholly unacquainted with policy in settling a new country—he knows that roads, mills, and settlements of farmers, makes a small tract of wild land bring a great price and valuable on the shortest notice. How can any one imagine that a number of characters, as an executive body, would rise in opposition and say “ Mr. BRANDT shall not sell his land, we will let him know better, he is an Indian,” &c. &c.

They have forgot that governor SIMCOE made

proposals to purchase the whole of Mr. BRANDT's land, nevertheless, they say BRANDT shall not sell his lands; if they could by any means discourage Mr. BRANDT and make him give up his lands, we should find that Gen. HUNTER would become an owner of a large quantity of them, as a compensation for his services. It would be good luck to Mr. HUNTER, to come in to the Province at so late a period, and do away the Indian claim to those lands.—It is the only opportunity which I can call to mind, for a chance of any great speculation to be made.—The gentlemen heretofore have taken good care to secure to themselves the best and most valuable tracts throughout the Province. It is true that General HUNTER on his coming into the Upper Province, made a great noise, saying that the gentlemen in the military department had become a set of farmers, and the Council a combined set of speculators, and that he was astonished to find the most valuable parts of the country taken up by them. But when we find his conduct to be more arbitrary than any thing which had been adopted, we must believe it was only envy in him, occasioned by their having had so much better opportunities of obtaining property than he could have at so late a period. This leads me to think that he has an eye on Mr. Brandt's land, and from any sentiment of moderation discovered in him, we have no reason to believe but that he would as soon force Mr. Brandt out of his lands, in order to engross them himself, as the Council. Nothing but fear will prevent a thing of this kind. They speak of savages as though they could not be treated too unfeelingly. But it is not the color that makes the savage; as white a man as Gen. Hunter may have a savage heart.

I declare that the *Americans*, whom your Lords so much despise, to whom they are nevertheless in-

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debted for the great value of their landed property, will never enlist themselves; not a man will take up arms; not a man will expose his life for imperious lords, with whom he can neither share in the dignities of the state, nor enjoy peace in private life.

But it avails little to point out injuries or evils without recommending a remedy.—*1st.* Let me ask, what is Patriotism? Is it confined to a narrow affection for the spot where a man was born? No. It is an extended self-love mingled with all the enjoyments of life, which make every good citizen cherish it, not only as precious, but as sacred; he is willing to risk his life in its defence, and conscious he gains protection while he gives it. For what rights of a subject will be deemed inviolable when the rulers renounce the principles that constitute their security? or if his life should not be invaded, what can his enjoyments be?—I say you all feel like banished and lost men, in your native land. On this point my emotions are unutterable—I wish I could find words for them—If my powers bore any proportion to my zeal, I could, swell my voice to such a note of remonstrance that I should reach every dwelling in your provinces, and say to the inhabitants, *Awake from your false security, and your cruel dangers.* You may have cruel apprehensions for an hour, then your wounds will be closed, and you will thereafter remain in peace, enjoying a pure, free and elective Government, which will induce your friends to risk their properties under the protection of your wise and well adapted constitution. You are not without men of spirit and abilities, at the same time, can have access to the most refined models.—Should you think it wisdom to form a coalition by borrowing certain clauses which by experience have the most desired effect in the *United States*, and it is but reasonable to suppose they would have the same in the *Canadas*. You need not fear, you have no cause to fear—every thing is plain and easy to be understood—the path is open—you have nothing to do, but to walk therein. Declare yourselves men; say to the world that you are determined to be free.—I say, come forward; be considered as high minded men; dispatch the several British Tyrants from your land, to that of their royal master, there let them render an account of their great exploits done in settling the *Canadas*. There is no mistake to be feared on your part, I summon your imagination to the scenes that will open. It is easy to conceive what the event will be.

Will your government ever be able to temper and restrain the turbulence of such a stife. I say they are in no capacity to govern. I am sensible there will be some small division among the people; it would be very strange to find every man of a sentiment. But will any one answer with a sneer and say *this is idle*; will any one dare deny that you are not bound. I state nothing but truths in the language of a native American, and at the same time divest myself of all national prejudice. I declare to my God and the

world that I am equally happy in the settlement of all nations commenced in America, but God forbid that any foreign nation should rule and keep a foot-step in our land.

Here I take pleasure in giving a Statement of the EXPORTS from the CANADAS, in the year 1800.

217,125 Bushels Wheat,	£81 421	10 barrels onions	5
20 371 barrels flour,	49 543	16 do. apples	24
26,123 quintals biscuit	33 153	58 cast iron stoves	232
3,193 bushels peas	768	24 do. pots	4
5,517 do. oats	353	319 ox hides	239
4,382 do. barley	276	3,532 cows horns—10 bags bran	34
326 do. flaxseed	65	600 hhd. seal oil	4,000
60 do. Indian corn	12	9,156 barrels pot and pearl	
37 kegs pot barley	44	altes	50,410
335 barrels beef	837	200 barrels flour—300 quin-	
181 do. pork	905	tals biscuit—1 lb. beef	
413 casks pickled codfish	671	—6 lb. pork—200 staves	1,505
703 quintals dry cod	421	20 horses	300
1,633 pieces oak timber	2858	8 ships—r brig, built at Que-	
12 do. pine do.	15	bec	24,800
92 masts and yards	230	17,500 Minor's salt	2,187
34,860 pieces pine boards and		1,338 lb. castoram	333
plank	872	967 lb. ginseng	145
1,083 do. oak plank	547	135,043 beaver skins	67,522
137 do. birch do.	64	40,345 martins	8,059
53,906 oak staves & heading	13,190	10,100 Otters	10,100
2,000 stave ends	6	8,428 minks	843
18,120 handspikes	679	5,937 fishers	1,187
1,159 ash oars	403	11,973 foxes	2,994
18,950 laths	10	26,575 bears and cubs	19,931
1,020 pieces lath wood	25	204,587 deer	40,917
18,985 trunnels	153	110,934 raccoons	12,485
13,000 shingles	3	12,397 muskrats	930
14,000 East India hoops	70	16,607 eated and open cats	4152
2,256 pipe packs	99	2,362 wolves	590
198 boxes soap and candles	304	856 elk	642
135 boxes and hhd. essence		2,073 wolverseens	259
lpruce	261	1,991 squirrels and hares	49
3 casks Canada balsam	24	3,797 seals	927
163 hhd. ale and porter	652	Furs sent out by St. Johns	
309 kegs of butter	798	supposed to amount to	30,000

The following are the IMPORTS in 1800.—Subject to duty.

302,063 gallons rum	92,334 lb. refined sugar.
38,561 do. foreign brandy, and gin	56,236 lb. coffee.
1,553 do. British brandy.	122,791 lb. tobacco.
13,424 do. Madeira wine.	10,116 playing cards.
120,117 do. other wines.	100,767 Minor's salt.
218,596 lb. Mulcovado sugar.	

Articles not liable to duty are not enumerated.